

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANAGU 00627 151944Z

43

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 AID-20 IO-14 DRC-01 /134 W

----- 055190

R 151815Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3502

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAGUA 0627

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NU

SUBJECT: HONDURAN/SALVADORAN RELATIONS

1. IN A CONVERSATION WITH THE DCM ON FEBRUARY 14, SALVADORAN AMBASSADOR MARIO MODESTO CHACON AREVALO EXPRESSED GREAT PESSIMISM OVER THE POSSIBILITY OF AN EARLY SETTLEMENT OF THE DISPUTE BETWEEN EL SALVADOR AND HONDURAS. CHACON SAID THAT WHILE BORDER DELIMITATION APPEARS TO BE THE STUMBLING BLOCK, THE REAL PROBLEM IS SALVADOR'S THESIS THAT THE REAL CAUSE OF THE WAR WAS HONDURAN VIOLATION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS AND "GENOCIDE" AGAINST SALVADORAN NATIONALS RESIDING IN HONDURAS. THE AMBASSADOR SAID THAT NATURALLY HONDURAS CANNOT ADMIT TO THIS BECAUSE TO DO SO WOULD "BLACKEN HONDURAS FOREVER IN HISTORY".

2. AMBASSADOR CHACON SAID THAT BOTH SIDES ARE NOW EXTREMELY INFLEXIBLE IN THEIR POSITIONS AND THAT THERE IS NO POLITICAL WILL ON EITHER SIDE TO REACH A SETTLEMENT. HE SAID THAT BECAUSE HONDURAN CHIEF OF STATE LOPEZ HAS NO POLITICAL BASE AND THERE IS A RESULTING INSTABILITY, LOPEZ MIGHT IN TIME OF INTERNAL TENSION BE TEMPTED TO CREATE A MILITARY

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PAGE 02 MANAGU 00627 151944Z

INCIDENT TO DISTRACT ATTENTION. EVEN MORE, CHACON FEARS

POSSIBILITY OF BORDER INCIDENTS BECOMING SERIOUS AND
LEADING TO RENEWED WAR BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

3. WITH REGARD TO THE BORDER PROBLEMS CHACON SAID THAT
IN HIS VIEW THEY ARE TOTALLY INSIGNIFICANT AND COULD BE SOLVED
IN TEN MINUTES IF EITHER COUNTRY DESIRED TO DO SO. HE REITERATED
THAT THERE IS NO WILL TOWARD A SETTLEMENT AND THAT HE SEES NO
PROSPECT FOR A PEACE TREATY WITHIN THE NEXT THREE OR FOUR YEARS.
SHELTON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, DISPUTES, WAR, BORDER INCIDENTS, BOUNDARY CLAIMS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MANAGU00627
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: MANAGUA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740229/aaaabbik.tel
Line Count: 70
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 SEP 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <09 DEC 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HONDURAN/SALVADORAN RELATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, NU
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005